

From: Kris Ruckman
To: Microsoft ATR
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Subject: Microsoft Settlement

I would like to offer my thoughts on the microsoft settlement. I work for one of the big 5 consulting firms where I help my clients utilize many of microsoft's products as well as products of their competitors (sun microsystems, oracle, etc.). My experience with microsoft's product suite is that they develop world class software. Their software is consistently well developed and integrated and offers my clients a very good solution. Their products have increased in functionality and usability while consistently being competitively priced, a compelling combination for any business.

Microsoft has consistently beaten the competition in delivering software that is useful, price competitive and well integrated. Sun, Oracle and others have good products, but their claim Microsoft that has some monopoly on the market or somehow forces companies to use their products is completely wrong. My clients choose Microsoft products because they routinely beat the competition in functionality, integration and price. In the ultra-competitive software industry, a monopoly simply does not exist.

While I do not agree with the majority of the rulings in the settlement, namely that microsoft operated as a monopoly and stifled competition, it is now time to settle this case. Microsoft needs to get back to the business of developing world-class software that meets the needs of companies. I encourage everyone to settle this quickly and fairly so we can all get back to business.

Regards,

Kris Ruckman

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